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THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" (a) A statement[a] giving the information is placed on the table of the House.

" (b) Only those holding pensionable posts belonged to the Pudukkottai State Government Service.

" (c) They have been discharged for want of corresponding posts in the Madras Services after merger."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Was compensation promised to these discontinued employees and if so, may I know whether the promise has been fulfilled during this period of five years and if not, why not? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I am sorry. I wish it had been included in the question. I do not wish to examine the file just now for that purpose."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" Are there no corresponding posts in the Governor's House in this State and could not they be usefully absorbed in that establishment? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" That is already overfilled."

Irrigation canal supplying water to Villupuram lake.

* 970 Q.—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state whether the agriculturists in Villupuram have through their petition, submitted to the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue in person some months ago, represented to the Government the unsatisfactory nature of the irrigation canal supplying water to the Villupuram lake and if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI N. RANGA REDDI :—" Petitions on the subject were received by the Government only in March and April 1953 and they have been referred to the Chief Engineer (Irrigation) for report."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" In view of the constant encroachments made on the canal by villagers who are not entitled to take to such tampering, may I request the Hon. the Finance Minister to instruct his departmental officials to see that no such tampering takes place to the disadvantage of the ryots of Villupuram lake? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The question is addressed to the Hon. the Finance Minister."

SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN :—" No. It is addressed to the Hon. the Revenue Minister."

Reduction in prices of yarn.

* 971 Q.—SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state the steps 9–20 a.m.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 1284-1285 infra.

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taken by the Government to reduce the prices of yarn in accordance with the resolution recently passed by the Madras Handloom Committee requesting for reduction of yarn prices?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" This Government have addressed the Government of India to relate the price of yarn more nearly to the price of cotton, and to equalise as far as possible the price of yarn for handlooms and that for composite mills. The Government of India have justified their method of relating the price of yarn to the price of cotton, which follows the formula evolved by the Tariff Commission. To equalise price, they have levied a cess on mill cloth. I, however, submit that the question of the regulation of the price of yarn is not a live issue now in view of decontrol."

SRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH :—" In view of the growing unemployment resulting in utter starvation due to the accumulation of handloom cloth, will the Government be pleased to take steps to supply yarn at prices at which the mills are getting at the spindle point and also introduce small-scale spinning mills for the manufacture and supply of yarn to handlooms? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" I have said that there is decontrol of the price and distribution of yarn. I do not know how the hon. Member wants the Government to help the industry."

Elections to Pamarru Panchayat Board, Gudivada.

* 972 *Q.*—SRI G. RAMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the elections to the major panchayats of Pamarru, Gudivada, were stayed by Government, and if so, under what circumstances;

(*b*) who gave the petition for postponement of the elections and or, what date; and

(*c*) whether the petition was referred to the local officials for remarks; and if so, when?

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" (*a*) Yes, on a representation from some residents that the electoral roll was not published when election proceedings were commenced and that the electoral roll itself was defective.

" (*b*) Four residents of the Pamarru Panchayat sent a petition, dated 5th June 1953, in the matter.

" (*c*) Yes, on 9th June 1953."

SRI K. RAJAGOPALA RAO :—" May I know whether the petition was sent by post or given in person? "

THE HON. SRI N. SANKARA REDDI :—" I do not remember whether the petition was sent by post or presented in person.